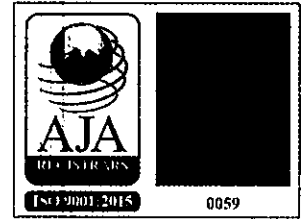




Department of National Defense
PHILIPPINE VETERANS AFFAIRS OFFICE
Quality Management System for Pension Management System
ISO 9001:2015 Certified



Certificate Number: AJA13/16840

Date: 12 May 2020

MEMORANDUM

FOR : THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

SUBJECT : Submission of FY 2020 1st Quarter Program Performance and Budget Execution Review (PPBER) Written Report

1. In accordance with the DND-Wide Program Performance and Budget Execution Review (PPBER) Guidelines for Fiscal Year 2020, the Philippine Veterans Affairs Office (PVAO) hereby submit its FY 2020 1st Quarter PPBER Written Report.

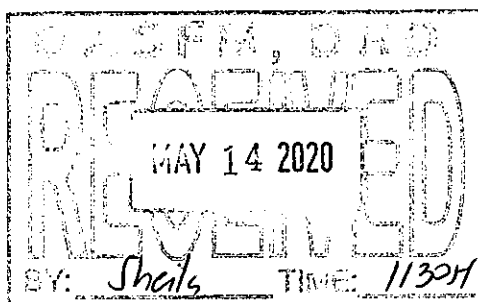
2. The report contains the agency's physical and financial accomplishments for the period in review against each of the Congress-approved performance targets under the Program Expenditure Classification (PREXC). These physical targets are measured in terms of outcome and output indicators which were formulated for the effective and efficient execution and delivery of the following three (3) programs:

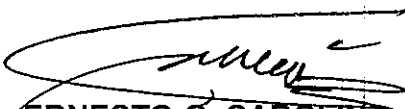
Program 1: Veterans Welfare and Benefits Administration Program;

Program 2: Veterans Affairs Management Program;

Program 3: Veterans Memorial and Historical Preservation Program

3. For your perusal.




ERNESTO G. CAROLINA
Administrator

cc: Office of the Undersecretary for Civil, Veterans and Retiree Affairs
Office of the Asst. Secretary for Plans and Programs

MES-RCDC-0

Serbisyo sa Beterano, Serbisyo sa Bayan

Veterans Compound, Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo, Quezon City
Website: www.pvao.gov.ph / Tel. No. (02) 912-4526



PHILIPPINE VETERANS AFFAIRS OFFICE
(PVAO)

2020

1st Quarter Program Performance and
Budget Execution Review (PPBER)
Written Report

*"Serbisyo sa Beterano,
Serbisyo sa Bayan"*

PVAO Core Values: *Patriotism, Integrity,
Professionalism, Solidarity*



I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This FY 2020 1st Quarter Program Performance and Budget Execution Review (PPBER) Written Report of the Philippine Veterans Affairs Office (PVAO) provide the details of the agency's performance as compared with the approved programs and activities for the year in physical and financial terms.

The agency's accomplishments are pursuant to its two-pronged mandates derived from the 1987 Philippine Constitution which guarantees that *"The State shall provide immediate and adequate care, benefits, and other forms of assistance to war veterans and veterans of military campaigns, their surviving spouses and orphans. Funds shall be provided therefor and due consideration shall be given them in the disposition of agricultural lands of the public domain and, in appropriate cases, in the utilization of natural resources (Sec. 7, Art. XVI), and shall inculcate in the youth patriotism and nationalism, and encourage their involvement in public and civic affairs (Sec. 13, Art. II)"*

Both mandates are inextricably linked to national security: how the State takes care of the veterans and propagate their heroic deeds impact on the motivation of the citizens, especially the youth who must be prepared as the nation's future defenders. These mandates likewise translate to PVAO's straightforward mission *"to ensure the welfare and wellbeing of the veterans and perpetuate the memory of their heroic deeds"*, and supports the agency's vision in its *Kagitingan Roadmap 2028* i.e *"A strong and unified Filipino veterans community, that is a reliable partner in nation building"*.

II. FY 2020 PHYSICAL & FINANCIAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

A. CAPABILITY BUILD-UP

A.1 Personnel Fill-Up Rate

For personnel fill-up, PVAO attained a 94% fill-up rate as of the 1st Quarter FY 2020 based on the 337 filled-up regular positions against the target of 357 authorized positions.

A.2 Training

For the 1st Quarter, 278 PVAO personnel benefitted from in-house and off-site trainings facilitated by the Human Resource Development Division prior to the start of the Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ) last 16 March 2020 due to the COVID 19 Pandemic. In spite of the ECQ however, PVAO personnel working from home were required to undergo Webinars related to their work and health information which ensured their continuous productivity, wellness and safety.

A.3 Facility

For facilities, PVAO sustained a 93% readiness rating in terms of central and field offices that continue to be in good condition (39 out of 42).

A.4 Equipment

For equipment, PVAO attained an overall 98% accomplishment in terms of serviceability of Mission Essential Equipment (ICT, Mobility and Aircon Equipment)

2. Timely and adequate provision of Non-Pension Benefits

a. Hospitalization Benefits

Particulars	FY 2020 Target		Actual Accomp.	%
	Annual	1 st Qtr	1 st Qtr	Accomp.
1. Number of recipients of Hospitalization Benefits	5,000	1,250	1,209	97%

For the 1st Quarter, a total of 1,209¹ veterans and veterans' dependents benefitted from hospitalization benefits and reimbursement for medical procedures or 97% of the quarterly target. In terms of funding, PVAO transferred Php 37 Million to the VMMC as of 31 March 2020 or 37% of the Php 100 Million allotment received from the DBM. On top of said amount, PVAO also transferred to VMMC Php 2.5 Million for the administrative requirements of the program.

Consistent with the advocacy that *"No Veteran Shall Pay for His/Her Own Medicine"*, PVAO continuously implements the Veterans Hospitalization and Medical Care Program (VHMCP) in partnership with Veterans Memorial Medical Center (VMMC). For up to Php1,500/day for a maximum of 45 days, the beneficiary can avail of hospitalization confinement, or reimbursements for certain medical procedures such as cataract surgery, orthopedic implants, dentures, hernia mesh, hearing aid, orthopedic braces, hemodialysis treatment, cardiac bypass, coronary angiogram, chemotherapeutic agents, angioplasty, pacemaker placement, cranial CT scan, colonoscopy, rehabilitation services, etc.

b. Educational Benefits

Particulars	FY 2020 Target		Actual Accomp.	%
	Annual	1 st Qtr	1 st Qtr	Accomp.
1. Number of recipients of Educational Benefits	1,665	300	280	93%

A total of 280 scholars were provided educational assistance in the 1st Quarter for a total amount of Php 6.45 Million. PVAO's Educational Benefit Program affords the beneficiary free tuition fee up to Php 40,000 per year, although actual reimbursements were much lower since most of the scholars are enrolled in state colleges and universities that offers free or lower tuition fees as compared with the private sector.

c. Burial Assistance

Particulars	FY 2020 Target		Actual Accomp.	%
	Annual	1 st Qtr	1 st Qtr	Accomp.
1. Number of recipients of Burial Assistance	5,000	1,000	856	86%

In the 1st Quarter, PVAO provided Php 15.97 Million worth of burial assistance for 856 claimants. Pursuant to Sec. 20 of RA 6948 as amended by Sec. 6 of RA 7696, PVAO provides Php 20,000 burial assistance to the next of kin of deceased veteran or whoever paid for the burial expense for an amount not exceeding per claim. Apart from the financial assistance, PVAO also provide a Philippine Flag to drape the casket of the deceased veteran.

¹ Based on VMMC Accomplishment Report as of 28 February 2020

Forging Partnerships for the expansion of Non-Pension Benefits

PVAO provides fund support to FILVETS

16 January 2020 | MSB Conference Room, PVAO

On 16 January 2020, PVAO turned over its Php 2.0 Million fund support to the Filipino War Veterans Foundation, Inc. in a simple ceremony led by PVAO Administrator Ernesto G. Carolina, and the Filipino War Veterans Foundation, Inc. (FILVETS) President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) General Victor Ibrado AFP (Ret).

The fund support shall be utilized for FILVETS' social services such as the conduct of medical missions and outreach programs in high density areas identified by PVAO to address the medical and health care needs of the veterans and their dependents. The amount shall also be used for the maintenance of the four (4) Medical Outreach Clinics (MOCs) located in Cagayan de Oro, Zamboanga del Norte, Agusan del Norte, and Zamboanga del Sur, and for the implementation of Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) technical-vocational skills training for the veterans, active military who are about to retire, and their dependents. However, no amount from the said fund support shall be used for administrative expenses.



Apart from these programs, FILVETS also partnered with PVAO during the Phase II of the Digitization Project of the World War II records currently housed in the U.S. National Archives and Records Administration (U.S. NARA) in Maryland, USA in May 2017.

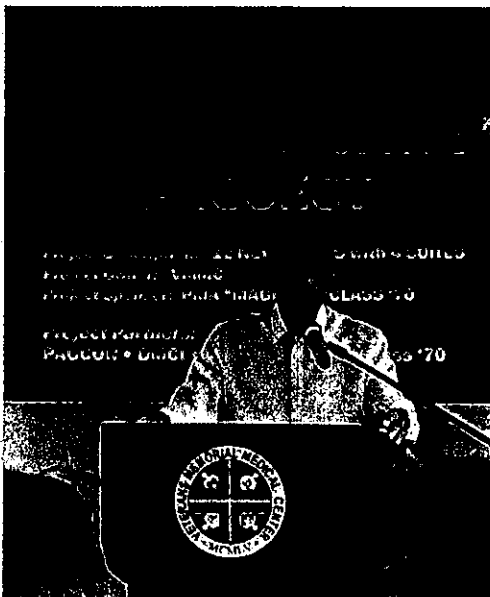
Magiting Class launches Magiting Wing Project

8 February 2020 | Veterans Memorial Medical Center (VMMC), Quezon City

Last 8 February 2020, Defense Secretary Delfin N. Lorenzana led the launch of the Magiting Class Wing project at the Veterans Memorial Medical Center (VMMC). Joining the Secretary were Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Secretary Roy Cimatu, PVAO Administrator Ernesto G. Carolina, VMMC Director Dr. Dominador M. Chiong, Jr. Project partners from the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation (PAGCOR), DMCI Holdings, Inc., San Miguel Corporation, Inc., and prominent personalities from the Philippine Military Academy (PMA) Magiting Class '70 led by Class President MGen. Rufo A. de Veyra.



The Magiting Class led the planning and construction of the wing which features eight (8) regular rooms and four (4) suites to address the increasing number of patients being confined at the VMMC, and a roof deck garden. The wing is an annex to Ward 21 at the third floor of the VMMC Main Building.



Dr. Chong expressed his gratitude to the Magiting Class for their generosity and support to further improve the medical facilities of the VMMC. The hospital chief also made a commitment to pursue more improvements in the hospital as "a true haven for our veterans when a time comes that they will need our care." Secretary Lorenzana also thanked the Magiting Class for promoting the health and well-being of the Filipino veterans through the project.

The Magiting Wing will be turned-over to the VMMC for their management once completed. To date, the project is the biggest donation to the VMMC, a legacy of the Magiting Class in celebration of their 50th graduation anniversary from the PMA.

Aside from the Magiting Class, several other PMA Class Associations had previously supported infrastructure projects for the hospital. The Sandigan Class of 1982 sponsored the renovation of a private room at Ward 11. Meanwhile, the construction and extension of six (6) private rooms at the opposite end of Ward 21 which is financially supported by the Matikas Class of 1983 is on-going. The Association of Generals and Flag Officers (AFGO), for its part, funded the renovation of the AGFO Suite at Ward 21.

3. Timely adjudication of claims for Pension Benefits

In terms of adjudication of pension claims, PVAO processed 2,416 claim applications with complete documentation requirements within standard time out of 2,471 claims received in the the 1st Quarter for a 98% accomplishment. The agency continue to attain a high percentage of adjudication of pension claims within the prescribed timeline because of its expanded Quality Management System for Pension Management System (from the previous scope Adjudication of Pension Claims) which has been continuously certified under ISO 9001 versions 2008 and 2015 Standards.

Program 2: Veterans Affairs Management Program

Outcome/Output Indicators	FY 2020 Target		Actual Accomplishment	% of Accomplishment
	Annual	1 st Qtr	1 st Qtr	
ORGANIZATIONAL OUTCOME: FILIPINO VETERANS EMPOWERED				
Outcome Indicator:				
Percentage of veterans who are members of veterans organizations	35%	35%	34%	97%
Output Indicators:				
❖ Number of veterans organizations assisted	42	42	47	112%
❖ Number of veterans related engagements	48	12	12	100%

❖ Increased VFP Membership



In terms of outcome, the membership of Filipino veterans to the VFP has grown to 34% (47,000 out of 138,000) as of the 1st Quarter FY 2020 from a low of 26% in CY 2016. The significant growth in the VFP membership is attributable to the new leadership in the Federation under the helm of Ret. Justice Manuel R. Pamaran who took over as VFP's President last 28 May 2018. Aside from the increased number of membership, the VFP has

also registered an increment in its revenue collection as a result of the review and enhancements of existing lease contracts conducted by the newly set-up Contract Review and Negotiation Committee where VFP, PVAO, and the DND Office of Undersecretary for Civil, Veteran and Retiree Affairs (OUSCVRA) serve as members.

In line with Republic Act No. 2640, Department Order No. 184 and 4, s. 2018, the Secretary of National Defense, through PVAO supervises the corporate affairs of the Veterans Federation of the Philippines (VFP). The VFP continue to be the only umbrella organization of the Filipino veterans community. In support of the oversight function of the Secretary of National Defense, PVAO through its Veterans Affairs Management Program ensure that the plans and operations of the VFP are aligned with the organization's mission of upholding the interest and rendering utmost care to all Filipino veterans.

❖ Continuous supervision and assistance to veterans' organizations

PVAO through its Veterans Affairs Management Program, continues to provide assistance to forty-seven (47) chartered veterans' organizations and fraternal/affiliate veterans' organizations, or 112% of the annual target of forty-two (42).

❖ Continuous participation in veterans related engagement

For the 1st Quarter, PVAO was able to conduct or participate in twelve (12) veterans related engagements comprised of VFP Executive Board Meetings, veterans' assemblies, joint medical missions, conventions and dialogues.

These veterans related engagements enable PVAO to reach out to more veterans and their dependents to keep in touch with their needs and other concerns. The conduct of joint medical missions with the VFP and FILVETS also the agency the golden opportunity to set up Helpdesks which provide convenient access to the veterans and their dependents for much needed services which they normally receive at the central office, such as pensioner validation services, filing of claim benefits etc.

The following highlights PVAO's veterans related engagements in the 1st Quarter:

➤ **PVAO and VFP finalized the Federation's FY 2020 Plans and Budget Proposal** 7 January 2020 | MSB Conference Room, PVAO

PVAO Administrator Ernesto G. Carolina, together with the key officials of the Veterans Federation of the Philippines (VFP), and personnel from the Veterans Affairs Management Division (VAMD) and the Planning and Management Division (PMD), held a meeting on 7 January 2020 at the MSB Conference Room, PVAO to finalize VFP's proposed FY 2020 Corporate Operating Budget (COB). Also in the meeting was the Chairperson of the



VFP Change Management Committee (CMT) and PVAO Deputy Administrator Raul Z. Caballes and representatives from the Department of National Defense (DND) Office of the Undersecretary for Civil, Veteran and Retiree Affairs (OUSCVRA). PVAO's participation in the said meeting is line with the instructions of the Secretary of National Defense, who, through PVAO, supervises the VFP operations and other veterans-related affairs.

Among the matters discussed were VFP's compliance to the DBM guidelines on the planning and development of the operating budget of Government-Owned and Controlled Corporations (GOCCs), particularly in accomplishing BP 700 or the Corporate Objectives, Priorities and Performance Measures Form. The attendees also evaluated the current proposal vis-à-vis the priority programs and projects of the Duterte Administration, and the 10-Point Socio-Economic Agenda in the Philippine Development Plan (PDP) 2017-2022.

For PVAO's part, the Administrator provided guidance to the VFP on how to further improve parts of the budget proposal such as providing focus on travel expense allocation to the Federation's participation in the Veterans Convention of ASEAN [Association of Southeast Asian Nations] Countries (VECONAC) than the convention's European counterpart. Additionally, the Administrator also recommended to check the legal basis of granting benefits through approved board resolutions; which includes the grant of centenarian benefits amounting to Php50,000 to the members of the VFP. He also gave emphasis on the guidance of the Secretary of National Defense to establish a VFP Service Unit which will serve as a veterans outreach unit to be managed by a VFP Regional

President. With the SND's directive, the Administrator advised the VFP to place its Medical Outreach Clinics (MOCs) adjacent to PVAO Field Service Extension Offices (FSEO) and/or veterans ward. On the other hand, the PVAO Deputy Administrator Caballes encouraged VFP to conduct a nationwide survey to gather more relevant information on the needs, issues and concerns of the veterans and their legal dependents.

➤ **Participation in Joint Medical Missions**

❖ **Medical Mission for Pangasinense Veterans held last 9 January 2020 at Provincial Training Center, Provincial Capitol Compound, Lingayen, Pangasinan**

PVAO through its Veterans Affairs Management Division (VAMD) and representatives from other frontline offices participated in the medical mission on 9 January 2020 at the Provincial Training Center of the Provincial Capitol Compound in Lingayen, Pangasinan. Sponsored by the Provincial Government of Pangasinan through the Provincial Health Office, the outreach activity was in line with the province's observance of the 75th Anniversary of the Lingayen Gulf Landings and the 13th Pangasinan Veterans Day

❖ **Medical Mission for Catanduanes Veterans held on 8 February at the Veterans Center Capitol Compound, Virac, Catanduanes**

Personnel from the Field Service Extension Office (FSEO) Catanduanes participated in the medical mission on 8 February 2020 at the Veterans Center Capitol Compound, Virac, Catanduanes. Sponsored by the Provincial Government of Catanduanes and the Veterans Federation of the Philippines (VFP), the outreach activity was in line with the province's commemoration of the 75th Anniversary of the Liberation of Catanduanes.

❖ **Medical Mission for Veterans in Quezon Province conducted last 27 February at the Tahanang Bayan in Tayabas, Quezon**

PVAO also joined the VFP and the Filipino War Veterans Foundation, Inc. (FILVETS) in the conduct of a medical mission for Quezon Province veterans on 27 February 2020 at the Tahanang Bayan in Tayabas, Quezon. Joining PVAO were VFP Executive Vice President Raul S. Urgello, Vice President for Operations Salvador Q. Esguerra, and the medical personnel of the Veterans Memorial Medical Center (VMMC).



The agency's participation in joint medical missions also paved the way for PVAO to facilitate the membership recruitment for the VFP as part of PVAO's unification initiatives under the agency's long term strategic plan KAGITINGAN Roadmap 2028. Representatives from other frontline divisions meanwhile provided other services normally facilitated at the Central Office, such as validation of pensioner's status, issuance of PVAO Pensioner's I.D., acceptance of pension claim applications and responses to client queries.

Some of the attendees also received mobility devices such as wheelchairs, canes and reading glasses. The Veterans Hospitalization and Medical Care Program (VHMCP) which PVAO and the Veterans Memorial Medical Center (VMMC) jointly undertakes was also promoted to the attendees.

➤ **Support to Oath Taking of Veterans Organizations' Leaders/Officers**



PVAO Administrator Ernesto G. Carolina administered the oath of office for the new leadership of the PEFTOK [Philippine Expeditionary Force to Korea] Veterans Association, Inc. on 4 February 2020 at the Philippine Korean Technological Training Center (PKTTC) in Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City.

The new set of officers was elected during the first quarterly board meeting in January 2020. Maj. Maximo P. Young PA (Ret) was elected as President while BGen. Miguel M. Villamor AFP (Ret) as Vice President. Other officers elected and inducted to office were Ms. Elsa D. Santos as Secretary; Lt. Luperio O. Oliva PA (Ret) as Treasurer; Col. Augusto S. Flores PA (Ret) as Public Relations Officer (PRO); Ms. Isabelita Y. Aganon as Auditor; and Atty. Walter T. Young as Legal Counsel. Also inducted to the organization were the newly elected Board of Directors, as follows: Mr. Ramon P. Aguirre III, Ms. Gloria L. Cruz, Ms. Rosalyn R. Flores, Mr. O' Daniel V. Bañez, Mr. Angelito R. Balaoro, Mr. Maximo A. Dones, Mr. Ricardo S. Catolos, Mr. John Voltaire Venturina, and, Mr. Jessie Jerry R. Taduran.



On 28 February 2020, the new set of officers of the Filipino Veterans Disabled Association, Inc. (FVDAI) also took their oaths of office before the PVAO Administrator, during the organization's 60th General Assembly held at PVAO's Bonifacio Conference Room.

The new FVDAI leadership is now composed of the following officers: Mr. Ricardo B. Madayag as President / National Commander; Mr. Inocencio V. Elegores as Vice President /

National Vice Commander; Ms. Elizabeth Quinsay as Secretary; and Ms. Leonia Dumpit as Treasurer. Mr. Felix B. Bernal, Mr. Justo Cacanindin, and Mr. Alfredo Agoot were also named as members of the FVDAI Board of Trustees.

On the same day, the Philippine Veterans Legion (PVL) also held its oath taking ceremony for the newly-elected officers, installing the following: Col. Julius A. Magno JAGS (Ret) as President / National Commander; Col. Romeo Dumag PA (Ret) as Vice President / National Vice Commander; Atty. Felix Azansa JAGS (Ret) as Assistant Vice Commander; Ms. Salvacion J. Cristobal as Assistant Secretary; Ms. Estela Mandap as National Treasurer; and Col. Jose Cortez PAF (Ret) as National Auditor.

PVAI, FVDAI, and PVL are among the 17 chartered organizations of the Veterans Federation of the Philippines (VFP) under Republic Act No. 2640 or the law creating the Federation, with the purpose of "the defense, protection, and promotion of the general welfare of all veterans, their widows, orphans, and their indigent parents, and to the preservation of the sacred memory of the war dead and the ideals for which they fought and died."

Consistent with PVAO's vision under the KAGITINGAN Roadmap 2028, the agency continue to foster unity among all veterans organizations in order to empower them to become an effective sounding board of the veterans' aspirations for the nation, especially for the youth who are the country's future defenders.

➤ Continuous Engagement with the Veterans amidst the COVID 19 Pandemic

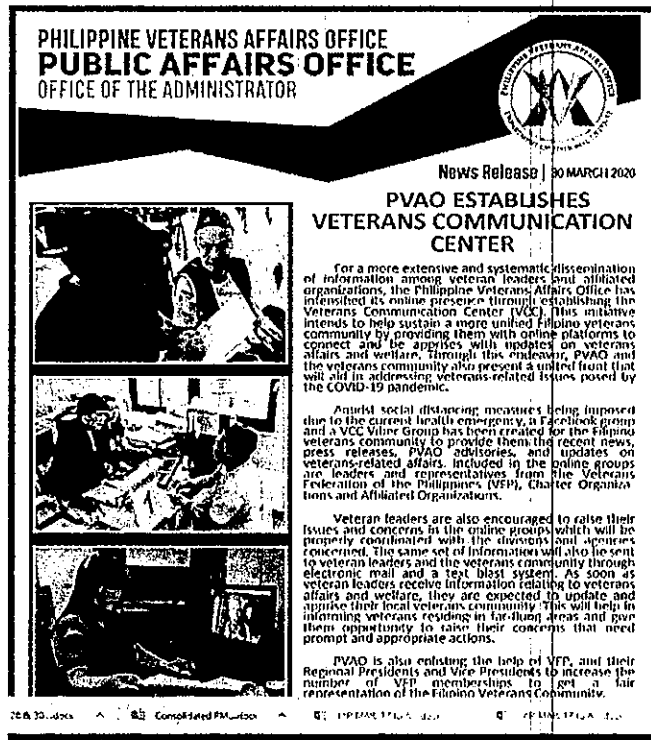
For a more extensive and systematic dissemination of information among veteran leaders and affiliated organizations, the Philippine Veterans Affairs Office has intensified its online presence through establishing the Veterans Communication Center (VCC). This initiative intends to help sustain a more unified Filipino veterans community by providing them with online platforms to connect and be apprises with updates on veterans affairs and welfare. Through this endeavor, PVAO and the veterans community also present a united front that will aid in addressing veterans-related issues posed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Amidst social distancing measures being imposed due to the current health emergency, a Facebook group and a VCC Viber Group has been created for the Filipino veterans community to provide them the recent news, press releases, PVAO advisories, and updates on veterans-related affairs. Included in the online groups are leaders and representatives from the Veterans Federation of the Philippines (VFP), Charter Organizations and Affiliated Organizations.

Veteran leaders are also encouraged to raise their issues and concerns in the online groups which will be properly coordinated with the divisions and agencies concerned. The same set of information will also be sent to veteran leaders and the veterans community through electronic mail and a text blast system. As soon as veteran leaders receive information relating to veterans affairs and welfare, they are expected to update and apprise their local veterans community. This will help in informing veterans residing in far-flung areas and give them opportunity to raise their concerns that need prompt and appropriate actions.

PVAO is also enlisting the help of VFP, and their Regional Presidents and Vice Presidents to increase the number of VFP memberships to get a fair representation of the Filipino Veterans Community.

Veterans can join the Veterans Community Center on Viber through this link: <<https://bit.ly/2UFkNeM>> and the Filipino Veterans Community on Facebook through this link: <<https://bit.ly/3dE4yap>>. Veterans may also provide PVAO their email addresses or mobile numbers through our official email address: <pvao.publicaffairs@gmail.com> to join our mailing list and text blast system.



PROGRAM 3: Veterans Memorial and Historical Preservation Program

Outcome/Output Indicators	FY 2020 Target		Actual Accomp. 1 st Qtr	% of Accomp.
	Annual	1 st Qtr		
ORGANIZATIONAL OUTCOME: FILIPINOS' APPRECIATION AND GRATITUDE FOR VETERANS' SERVICE DEMONSTRATED				
Outcome Indicator:				
Number of shrine visitors and attendees to commemorative events	500,000	100,000	107,565	108%
Output Indicators:				
1. Number of shrines maintained	9	9	9	100%
2. Number of veterans' celebratory events managed	13	2	2	100%
3. Number of books, journals and other materials published	4	1	1	100%

❖ Increasing awareness to the memory of veterans' heroic deeds

PVAO recognizes that the mission of maintaining and developing the nation's Military Shrines and commemorating veterans related events are equally important and at par with providing benefit and taking care of the veterans. For this purpose, PVAO continues to inculcate in the youth patriotism and nationalism, or "Love of Country" as mandated in the constitution.

PVAO contributes immensely to this effort by maintaining and developing national military shrines, supporting historical researches and publication of historical books and managing or participating in veterans related commemorative events that memorialize and propagate the heroic deeds of the veterans.

A strong measurement of the agency's effectiveness with respect to memorializing the veterans' heroic deeds is the number of visitors to national military shrines and attendees to veterans related commemorative events. For the 1st Quarter, there were 107,565 shrine visitors and attendees to the commemorative events which is 8% higher than the 1st Quarter target.

❖ Maintenance and Development of National Military Shrines

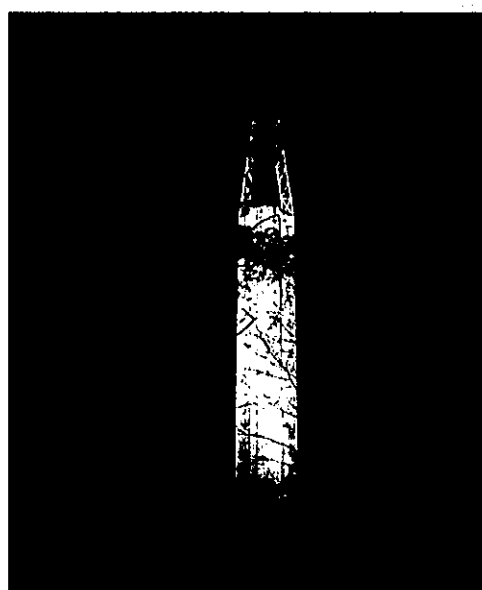
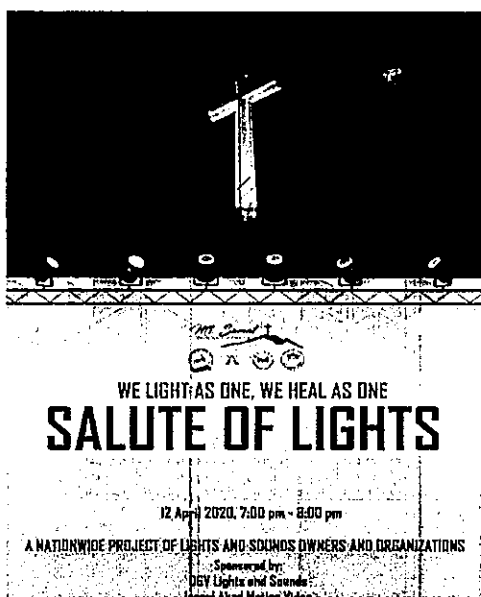
PVAO propagates "Love for Country" through the preservation and development of the country's national military shrines which serve as strong reminders of the veterans' heroic deeds and that the freedom we enjoy today is not free, and has been paid for by the lives and sacrifices of our nation's defenders. Such sends a clear strategic message to the citizenry, especially the youth as the nation's future defenders. The following are the nine (9) Military Shrines currently managed by PVAO:

1. *Libingan ng mga Bayani;*
2. *Mt. Samat Shrine;*
3. *Capas National Shrine;*
4. *Kiangan National Shrine;*
5. *Balete Pass*
6. *Ricarte National Shrine;*
7. *Balantang Memorial Cemetery National Shrine;*
8. *USAFIP-NL Military Shrine;*
9. *PEFTOK Korean War Memorial Hall*

Not yet included in the aforementioned list is the Corregidor National Shrine which is currently maintained by the Dept. of Tourism by virtue of a Memorandum of Agreement entered into with the DND, PVAO and Corregidor Foundation Inc. several years ago.

➤ **Participation in the Salute of Lights for Frontliners and Campaign to Unite in light of the Enhanced Community Quarantine due to the COVID 19 Pandemic**

To demonstrate solidarity with the President's call to unite in combating the COVID 19 Pandemic and show utmost appreciation with the sacrifices of the country's frontliners, PVAO continue to light the Memorial Cross at Mt. Samat Shrine and the Obelisk at the Capas National Shrine every evening since 28 March 2020.

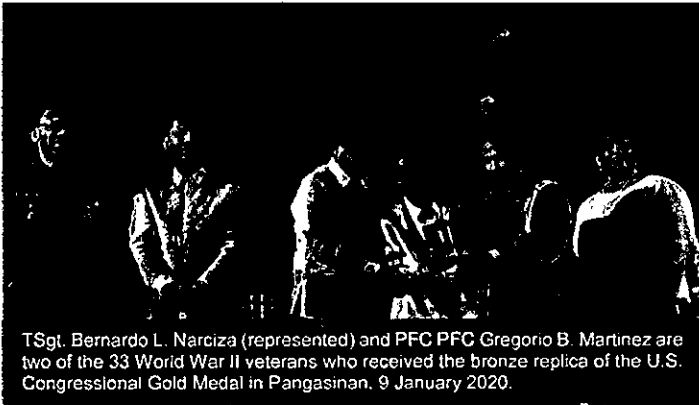


❖ **Continuous Celebration of Historical/Veterans Related Events**

As part of PVAO's mandate to inculcate in the youth patriotism and nationalism, the agency managed two (2) conferment of US Congressional Gold Medals and participated in seventeen (17) veterans related commemorative events in the 1st Quarter. The following are the highlights of these historical and veterans related events which PVAO managed or participated in the period in review:

➤ **U.S. Congressional Gold Medals conferred to Pangasinense Veterans**
9 January 2020 | Sison Auditorium, Lingayen, Pangasinan

Twenty-seven (27) living Filipino World War II veterans and six (6) posthumous awardees were conferred with the bronze replica of the U.S. Congressional Gold Medal (CGM) in connection with the observance of the 75th Anniversary of the Lingayen Gulf Landings and the 13th Pangasinan Veterans' Day at the Sison Auditorium in Lingayen Pangasinan on 9 January 2020.



TSgt. Bernardo L. Narciza (represented) and PFC PFC Gregorio B. Martinez are two of the 33 World War II veterans who received the bronze replica of the U.S. Congressional Gold Medal in Pangasinan, 9 January 2020.

The awarding ceremony was led by the PVAO Administrator, members of the Veterans Federation of the Philippines (VFP) led by its Executive Vice President Raul S. Urgello, local government officials led by Pangasinan Vice Governor Mark Ronald DG. Lambino, and families of the awardees.

The awarding of the U.S. Congressional Gold Medal (CGM) was led by Administrator Carolina, United States Department of Veterans Affairs (USDVA) Pacific Director Tracey Betts, and Joint United States Military Assistance Group (JUSMAG-Philippines) Chief Col. Stephen Ma. This is the fourteenth leg of the U.S. Congressional Gold Medal awarding in the Philippines since 2018 and the first for FY 2020.

The following were the CGM awardees: TSgt Miguel V Aure, 94; PFC Carlos C Abalos, 97; Cpl Filemon V Sison, 98; Cpl Pedro C Regadio, 98; Pvt Apolonio R Ramirez, 98; Pvt Pedro

C Ramirez, 98; Sgt Elpidio S Peroche, 98; Pvt Pedro M Parayno, 98; Pvt Pablo V Orpiano, 98; Pvt Bonifacio D Garcia, 98; PFC Pedro F Fernandez, 98; Cpl Marcelo D Estabillo, 98; Pvt Francisco D Dela Cruz, 98; SSgt Sergio R Casimero, 98; Pvt Servillano V Bugagon, 98; Pvt Numeriano T Apostol, 98; Pvt Reymundo DS Leal, 99; SSgt Jose V Austria, 99; Cpl Adriano S Salomon, 100; Cpl Valentin T Rebugio, 100; 2Lt Federico G Palisoc, 100; TSgt Bernardo L Narciza, 100; Pvt Lorenzo M Mortera, 100; Pvt Teofilo P Cayao, 101; PFC Gregorio B Martinez, 102; Pvt Placido V Laureta, 102; and, 2Lt Pedro C Torres, 105.

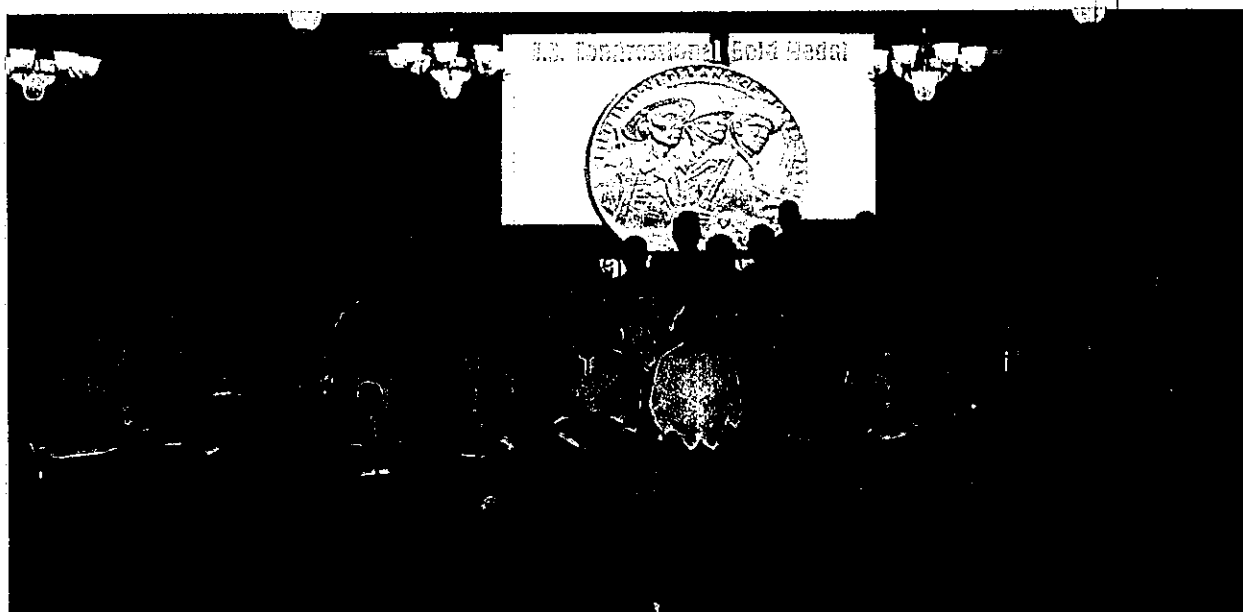
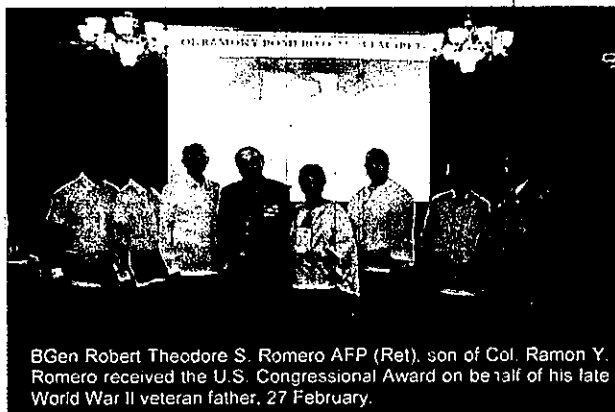
Six (6) veterans were also awarded posthumously, these were Cpt Mariano F Mejia; 1Lt Ismael T Tomelden; Sgt Leopoldo R Signey; Pvt Marcelo R De Vera; Pvt Miguel T Monegas; and, Pvt Juan L Inocencio.



➤ Fifteenth leg of U.S. Congressional Gold Medal awarding held

27 February 2020 | Dimalupig Hall, Armed Forces of the Philippines Commissioned Officers Club (AFPCOC), Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City

On 27 February 2020, twenty-five (25) Filipino World War II veterans – four (4) living and 21 deceased –awardees – were conferred with the U.S. Congressional Gold Medal during the awards ceremony at the Dimalupig Hall of the Armed Forces of the Philippines Commissioned Officers Club (AFPCOC), Camp Aguinaldo. The awarding ceremony was led by Defense Secretary Delfin N. Lorenzana, Defense Undersecretary for Civil, Veteran and Retiree Affairs Reynaldo B. Mapagu, PVAO Administrator Ernesto G. Carolina, United States Department of Veterans Affairs (USDVA) Pacific Director Tracey Betts, Joint United States Military Assistance Group (JUSMAG-Philippines) Chief Col. Stephen Ma, and Veterans Federation of the Philippines Acting President Justice Manuel R. Pamaran. This is the fifteenth leg of the U.S. Congressional Gold Medal awarding in the Philippines since 2018, and the second for FY 2020.



The following were the CGM awardees: Pvt Isabelo L Bandorin, 94 years old; PFC Jose R De Jesus, 94; SSgt Jose B Pizarro, 99; and 1Lt Socrates N Ybañez, 103.

Meanwhile, the 21 posthumous awardees were BGen Zosimo J Paredes AFP (Ret); Col Eriberto B Adan; Col Adorado T Masigan; Col Ramon Y Romero; Capt Ramon Z Paterno; Capt Ascario G Tuason; Capt Valeriano Segura; 2Lt Angelina P Adan; 2Lt Domingo O Sapiñoso; 2Lt Ramon F Pelayo; MSgt Zacarias B Balasabas; TSgt Fidel Zosimo U Canilao; TSgt Severino R Reyes; Sgt Blas F Ople; Sgt Felicisimo T Somoray; Cpl Claudio Tolentino; PFC Pershing N Fabic; Pvt Luciano L Lagat; Pvt Romeo D Briones; Pvt Pedro U Calleja; and Pvt Adolfo C Arias.

The U.S. Congressional Gold Medal, the highest civilian honor “for the distinguished achievements and contributions for the United States during the World War II,” is a breakthrough

recognition conferred to Filipino World War II veterans as provided in the “Filipino Veterans of World War II Congressional Gold Medal Act” signed on 16 December 2016 by President Barack Obama. The Act awards a Congressional Gold Medal *collectively* to Filipino veterans of World War II. The gold medal is displayed at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. Considered as breakthrough recognition for the veterans, PVAO aims to continuously conduct CGM awarding at least once per region to recognize and demonstrate the Filipino people's gratitude to the great heroic deeds of our Filipino World War II veterans.

➤ **PVAO joins the 75th Anniversary of the Lingayen Gulf Landings, 13th Pangasinan Veterans' Day**

9 January 2020 | Veterans Park, Capitol Compound, Lingayen, Pangasinan

The PVAO Administrator led the members of Pangkat PVAO in observing the 75th Anniversary of the Lingayen Gulf Landings and the 13th Pangasinan Veterans' Day at the Veterans Park, Capitol Compound in Lingayen Pangasinan on 9 January 2020.



Joining the observance were members of the Veterans Federation of the Philippines (VFP) led by its Executive Vice President Raul S. Urgello, local government officials led by

Pangasinan Governor Amado I. Espino, III, the youth, civil society groups, and officials from the Australian Embassy in the Philippines.

Memorial medallions were also awarded to the Filipino World War II veterans. Additionally, a memorial marker was also inaugurated by the local government dedicated to the veterans of the Royal Australian Navy who played a major role during the Lingayen Gulf Landings.

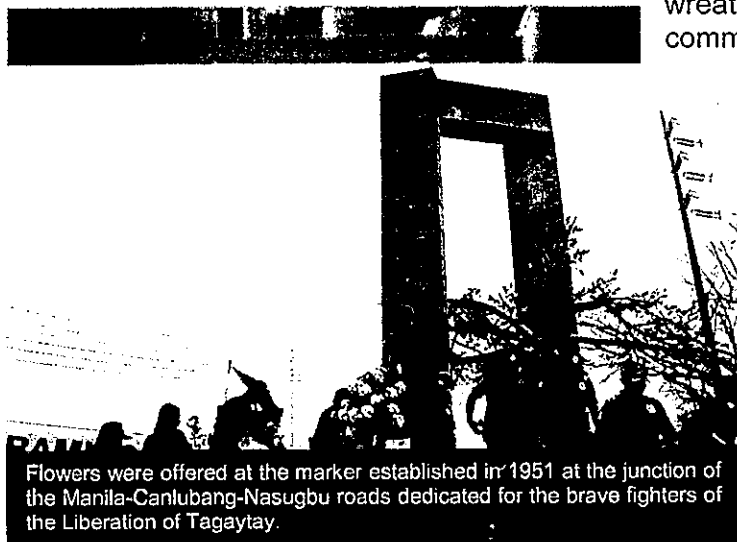


REMEMBERING THE VETERANS' VALOR AND HEROISM: Representatives of the Royal Australian Navy and the Australian Embassy unveiled the Royal Australian Navy Marker in the west side of the Veterans Memorial Park in Lingayen town (*left photo*). Pangasinan Governor Amado I. Espino, III led the awarding of the memorial medallions to Filipino World War II veterans (*right photo*), 9 January 2020.

Two World War II films – “Unsundered II: The Hunter ROTC Guerrillas” and “Valor: The Legacy of Col. Emmanuel V. de Ocampo” – was also showcased by the Pangasinan government and the Philippine Veterans Bank (PVB) on 9 January 2020.

➤ **PVAO remembers POWs in the 75th Anniversary of the Cabanatuan Raid**
30 January 2020 | Cabanatuan American Memorial, Cabanatuan, Nueva Ecija

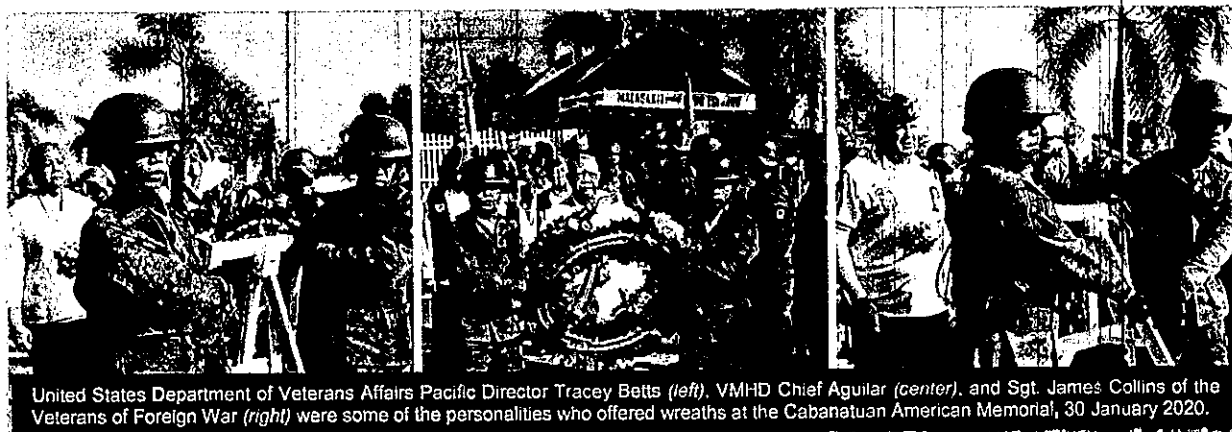
PVAO, represented by its Veterans Memorial and Historical Division (VMHD) Chief Restituto L. Aguilar (VMHD) joined the officials of the Provincial Government of Nueva Ecija in the solemn wreath-laying ceremony for the commemoration of the 75th Anniversary of the Cabanatuan Raid at the Cabanatuan American Memorial, Nueva Ecija on 30 January 2020.



Flowers were offered at the marker established in 1951 at the junction of the Manila-Cantubang-Nasugbu roads dedicated for the brave fighters of the Liberation of Tagaytay.

Also in attendance to the rites were United States Department of Veterans Affairs (USDVA) Pacific Director Tracey Betts, officials of the American Battle Monument Council led by its Superintendent Timothy Pratt, members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars led by Sgt. James Collins, the National Historical Commission of the Philippines (NHCP), Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), and members and

officers of the Veterans Federation of the Philippines (VFP). A ceremonial tolling of the bell was also part of the commemoration, as led by Veteran Felix M. Miguel, Sr., the VFP Region III President.



United States Department of Veterans Affairs Pacific Director Tracey Betts (left), VMHD Chief Aguilar (center), and Sgt. James Collins of the Veterans of Foreign War (right) were some of the personalities who offered wreaths at the Cabanatuan American Memorial, 30 January 2020.

➤ **PVAO honors World War II vets during the 75th Anniversary of the Liberation of Tagaytay**

3 February 2020 | Tagaytay City Hall, Tagaytay, Cavite

Represented by its Veterans Memorial and Historical Division (VMHD) Acting Assistant Chief Agerico G. Amagna III, PVAO participated in the observance of the 75th Anniversary of the Liberation of Tagaytay on 3 February 2020 at the Tagaytay City Hall, Cavite. The commemoration was made possible through the efforts of the City Government of Tagaytay and the City College of Tagaytay.

Among the highlights of the celebration was the conferment of plaques and Philippine Liberation Medals to ten (10) World War II veterans at the Tagaytay City Hall led by the officials of the City Government of Tagaytay notably Mayor Agnes D. Tolentino and Vice Mayor Reymond Ambion.



World War II veterans strike a pose after being awarded with plaques and Philippine Liberation Medals at the commemoration of the 75th Anniversary of the Liberation of Tagaytay, 3 February 2020.

➤ **Manila LGU observes the 75th Anniversary of the Battle for Manila**
3 February 2020 | Manila City Hall Freedom Triangle, Manila

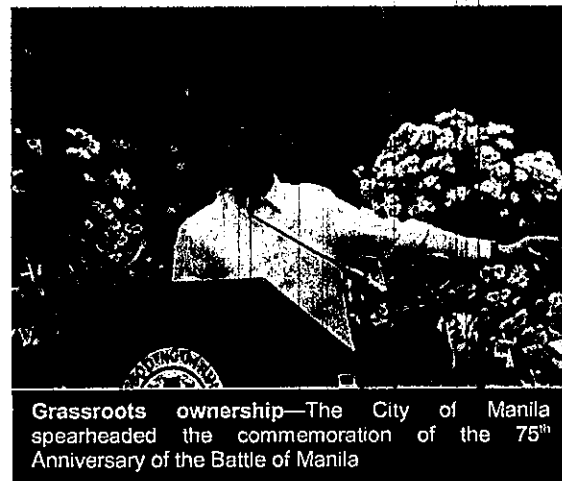


World War II veteran Enrique Lim Chan led the tolling of the bell for the 75th Anniversary of the Battle for Manila

The City Government of Manila, led by Mayor Francisco “Isko” Domagoso, led the commemorative rites for the 75th Anniversary of the Battle for Manila on 3 February 2020 at the Manila City Hall Freedom Triangle, Manila. Joining the solemn wreath-laying ceremony was PVAO, led by Deputy Administrator Raul Z. Caballes, and the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) in the person of Col. Leodigario V. Macalintal PAF (GSC).

Among the other attendees of the program were members of the diplomatic corps – Embassy of the United Mexican States, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Australia, People’s Republic of China – led by H.E. Ambassador Sung Kim of the United States Embassy in Manila; the National Historical Commission of the Philippines (NHCP); the officers and members of the Veterans Federation of the Philippines (VFP) led by its President Justice Manuel R. Pamaran and Executive Vice President Raul S. Urgello; the youth; and other civil society groups.

In the message of city’s executive, Mayor Domagoso recalled the war’s painful aftermath and how it both devastated and liberated Manila. He also emphasized the need of commemorating the lives of those who bravely served and how their sacrifices should be honored with peace and solidarity. “I hope when the time comes, our history will teach us to decide and to do better,” he mentioned.

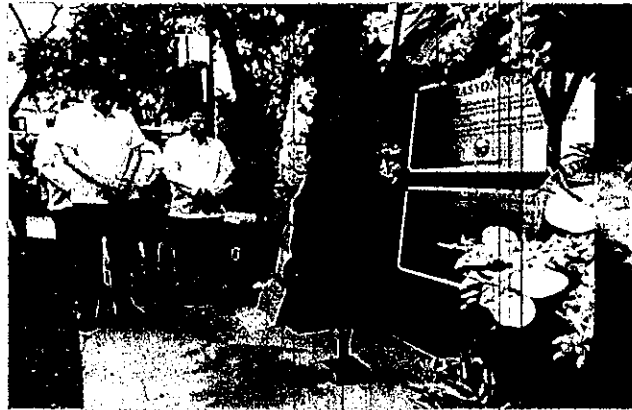


Grassroots ownership—The City of Manila spearheaded the commemoration of the 75th Anniversary of the Battle of Manila

➤ **PVAO participates in the 75th Anniversary of the Liberation of Polo, Valenzuela**

3 February 2020 | Polo Park, Poblacion, Valenzuela City

PVAO represented by the Chief of its Planning and Management Division (PMD) Atty. Brian James C. Cuevas, joined the City Government of Valenzuela City in commemorating the 75th Anniversary of the Liberation of Polo, Valenzuela on 3 February 2020 at the Polo Park in Poblacion, Valenzuela.



The commemorative rites started off with the celebration of the Holy Eucharist and a solemn wreath-laying before the Memorial Wall for the World War II Veterans by led by Valenzuela City Mayor Rex Gatchalian, and the Veterans Federation of the Philippines (VFP) Valenzuela Chapter. A World War II veteran was also recognized during the brief program by the City Government.

➤ **VFP leads tribute for the 75th Anniversary of the Liberation of Parañaque**

4 February 2020 | Parañaque Veterans Memorial Monument, San Dionisio, Parañaque City



The PVAO Administrator served as the Guest of Honor and Speaker during the tribute for the 75th Anniversary of the Liberation of Parañaque on 4 February 2020 before the Parañaque Veterans Memorial Monument in San Dionisio, Parañaque City. Leading the commemorative program was the Veterans Federation of the Philippines (VFP) led by the Vice President for Operations Salvador Q. Esguerra, and the local government of Parañaque led by Parañaque City Mayor Edwin L. Olivarez.

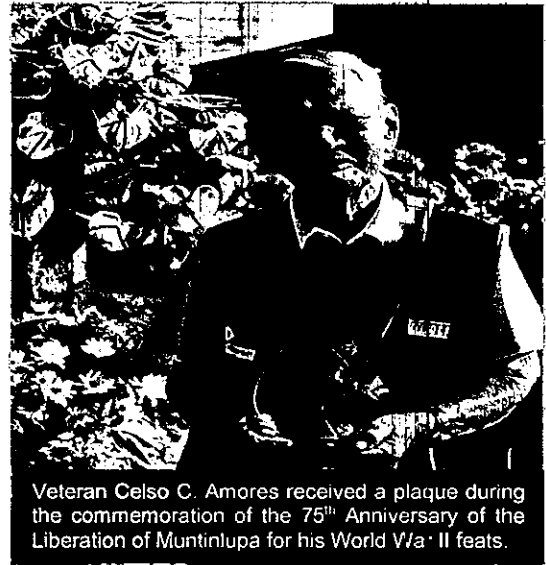
The PVAO Administrator shared in his message the relevance of Parañaque to the events of World War II in the Philippines, highlighting that the city was the first to be historically liberated during the war. Being a strategic location, it served as a gateway to both Manila and the South and became the base of the 11th American Airborne Division with the Filipino soldiers, thus being a target by the Japanese forces.

➤ **PVAO and Muntinlupa LGU commemorates the 75th Anniversary of the Liberation of Muntinlupa**

4 February 2020 | Liwasan ng mga Bayani, Alabang, Muntinlupa

PVAO represented by Veterans Memorial and Historical Division (VMHD) Chief Restituto L. Aguilar participated in the commemoration of the 75th Anniversary of the Liberation of Muntinlupa on 4 February 2020 at the Liwasan ng mga Bayani in Alabang, Muntinlupa. With the theme “Kalayaang Tinatamasa, Bungan g Magiting na Pakikidigma,” the commemorative rites was led by the City Government of Muntinlupa led by Mayor Jaime D. Fresnedi and the members of the Veterans Federation of the Philippines (VFP) led by its Executive Vice President (EVP) Raul S. Urgello.

Four Living World War III Veterans were awarded with a Plaque of Appreciation in honor of their gallant feats: Veteran Rufino Calalang, 95 years old; Veteran Tranquilino Nofuente, 95; Veteran Rufina Celestino, 93; and Veteran Celso Amores, 91). World War II Veteran Celso C. Amores was also recognized during the program for his contribution during the Liberation.



Veteran Celso C. Amores received a plaque during the commemoration of the 75th Anniversary of the Liberation of Muntinlupa for his World War II feats.

➤ **PVAO joins Catanduanes LGU in remembering vets during the 75th Anniversary of the Liberation of Catanduanes**

7 February 2020 | Virac Memorial Fountain, Catanduanes

PVAO’s Chief of Veterans Memorial and Historical Division (VMHD) served as the Guest of Honor and Speaker at the 75th Anniversary of the Liberation of Catanduanes on 7 February 2020 at the Virac Memorial Fountain for the Unknown Soldiers of Catanduanes.

The highlight of the commemorative rites was the recognition given to thirteen (13) living veterans and ten (10) posthumous awardees who were presented with the PVAO Medallion, Philippine Liberation Medal, World War II Victory Medal and Plaque of Recognition.



World War II veterans were conferred with the PVAO Medallion, Philippine Liberation Medal, World War II Victory Medal and Plaque of Recognition during the awarding ceremony for the 75th Anniversary of the Liberation of Catanduanes.

➤ **PVAO and Sta. Cruz Laguna LGU commemorates 75th Anniversary of the Liberation of Sta. Cruz**

5 March 2020 | Liwasang Bayan, Sta. Cruz, Laguna

PVAO and the Municipal Government of Sta. Cruz Laguna led the commemorative rites for the 75th Anniversary of the Liberation of Sta. Cruz on 5 March 2020 at the Liwasang Bayan, Sta. Cruz, Laguna. PVAO was represented by Veterans Memorial and Historical Division (VMHD) Acting Assistant Chief Agerico C. Amagna, III and other key PVAO personnel.



Also in attendance were executives of the Provincial Government of Laguna and the Municipal Government of Sta.

Cruz – Governor Ramil Hernandez and Mayor Edgar San Luis, respectively – together with the National Historical Commission of the Philippines (NHCP) Officer-in-Charge Carminda R. Arevalo; officers and members of the Veterans Federation of the Philippines (VFP); representatives from the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), Department of Education (DepEd), Assembly of Barangay Chairmen, Filipino Chinese Chamber of Commerce, Sons and Daughters of ROTC Hunters, and the Wha Chi 48th Squadron Veterans Legion, Inc. Solemn wreath-laying rites were held before the memorial marker, remembering the Wha Chi 48th Squadron. A ceremonial tolling of the bell was also part of the commemoration, as led by a Hunters ROTC descendant and a youth representative. University of the Philippines History Professor Dr. Ricardo Jose also gave a short speech where he emphasized the significance of the Liberation.

➤ **PVAO and LGU of Zamboanga City commemorates the city's liberation**

10 March 2020 | Liberation Marker Sinunuc, Zamboanga City

The City Government of Zamboanga led the commemorative rites for the 75th Anniversary of the Liberation of Zamboanga on 10 March 2020 at the Liberation Marker in Sinunuc, Zamboanga City. The PVAO Administrator Ernesto G. Carolina served as the Guest of Honor and Speaker in the momentous occasion.

Also in attendance were officials and staff of the Local Government of Zamboanga; National Historical Commission of the Philippines (NHCP) Officer-in-Charge Carminda R. Arevalo; officers and members of the Veterans Federation of the Philippines (VFP); representatives from the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) led by the Western Mindanao Command (WESMINCOM) Chief LtGen. Cirilito Sobejana; Philippine Navy officials; and representatives from the U.S. Marine Corps.



In his speech, the PVAO Administrator recounted the significance of Zamboanga's Liberation to the Philippine World War II history. Some of the local Filipino ground troops under the Philippine Commonwealth Army, the 6th, 10th, 101st, 102nd, and 105th Infantry Divisions and the Philippine Constabulary 10th Infantry Regiment conducted combat military operations against the Japanese from January to December 1944.

❖ Continuous Propagation of the Veterans Heroic Deeds

Apart from the management of, or participation in veterans' related commemorative events, PVAO was also at the forefront of the publication of books, as well as the collection and management of important historical data and researches which will further propagate the veterans' heroic deeds and the country's glorious historic past.

➤ Participation in the Battle of Manila Symposium

11 February 2020 | Teatrillo, Plaza San Luiz Complex, Intramuros, Manila



On 11 February 2020, PVAO participated in the Battle of Manila Symposium with Defense Secretary Delfin N. Lorenzana serving as Guest of Honor and speaker. The event took place at the Teatrillo in Plaza San Luis, Intramuros, Manila. Also joining the occasion was Joint United States Military Assistance Group (JUSMAG) and Defense Attaché Col. Stephen Ma.

Secretary Lorenzana thanked the organizers for providing insights on the Battle for Manila which could be shared and discussed to a much

wider audience especially the youth. Topics focused on the events that transpired during the month-long Battle of Manila – the Santo Tomas allied civilian prisoners internment camp, resistance and collaboration movements during the Japanese invasion, and Battle of Manila's

significance after 75 years – which were discussed by Filipino and American historians and former internees in the UST. After the talks, guests were invited for a curated tour in Intramuros.

Organized by the Bataan Legacy Historical Society, Philippine World War II Memorial Foundation, Memorare 1945 Foundation, in partnership with the National Historical Commission of the Philippines (NHCP), UST, and Intramuros Administration, the Symposium is one of the many private sector-led activities in line with the celebration of the 75th Anniversary of the End of World War II in the Philippines.

➤ **Participation in the special screening of the documentary film “Corregidor: The Road Back”**

18 February 2020 | Charles Parsons Ballroom U.S. Embassy in the Philippines, Manila

The United States Embassy in the Philippines, led by U.S. Ambassador to the Philippines H.E. Sung Kim, hosted a special screening of a documentary film “Corregidor: The Road Back” on 18 February 2020 at the Charles Parsons Ballroom of the Embassy in Manila. Sponsorship of the said special screening is in line of the Embassy’s observance of the 75th Anniversary of the End of World War II in the Philippines.



Produced by the Philippine-based Spyron-AV Manila Creative

Productions Co. in 2013, the documentary film recounts the events that transpired during the retaking of The Rock by a few brave men. It also narrates how a well-armed Island ended up under the Japanese control before mid-1942, and how American paratroopers would retake it in two weeks' time.

Gracing the occasion VFP President and World War II veteran Justice Manuel R. Pamaran along with other veterans Enrique C. Lim, Jose S. Quilatan, Sr., Wilfredo G. Valenzuela, and MGen. Jose P. Magno, Jr. AFP (Ret). Members of the 503rd Infantry Regiment and the 317th Airlift Wing, WWII Veteran Richard Adams, who helped liberate Corregidor, and his daughter United States Air Force Capt. Alison Adams, also graced the special screening. Key personnel from PVAO, led by Veterans Memorial and Historical Division (VMHD) Chief Restituto L. Aguilar also witnessed the documentary film.

PVAO’s participation in such activities is one of the Agency’s two-pronged mandate to inspire future defenders by creating awareness of our country’s great historic past. Under KAGITINGAN Roadmap 2028, the Agency’s long-term strategic plan, PVAO aims to build partnerships with individuals and institutions in ensuring that the lessons of history are instilled to the current generations of Filipinos, in order to revive the lost and faded values of “Kagitingan” and “Love for Country”.

B. FY 2020 1st Quarter Financial Performance

For FY 2020, PVAO was appropriated a total of Php 11,485,347,000 comprised of the agency's operating budget of Php 627,454,000 and special purpose fund of Php 10,857,893,000 for the payment of pension benefits which accounts for 95% of PVAO's annual budget.

In terms of actual utilization of the agency's specific or operating budget, PVAO attained a 20% and 16% Obligation and Disbursement Rates, respectively as of the 1st Quarter. The utilization rates were based on the total obligations of Php 124,314,414 and total disbursements of Php 99,319,200 versus the total appropriations of Php 627,454,000 allocated for Personnel Services, Maintenance and Other Operating Expenses and Capital Outlay.

With respect to utilization of pension funds, PVAO disbursed Php 2,741,065,333 worth of pension benefits out of the Php 2,749,563,000 total allotments received in the 1st Quarter 2019 for a 99.70% utilization performance.

PVAO also achieved a 99.99% high utilization rate on Notice of Cash Allocation (NCA) released by the DBM in the 1st Quarter based on the total utilization amount of Php 2,871,953,789 out of the Php 2,871,956,234 total NCA released per DBM's report as of 31 March 2020.

III. FY 2020 1st Quarter Assessment

Overall, PVAO met its objectives in the 1st Quarter of FY 2020 based on the physical and financial performance of the agency with respect to the implementation of the three (3) major programs in line with the agency's long term strategic plan "Kagitingan Roadmap 2028".

For Program 1, Veterans' Welfare and Benefits Administration Program, PVAO was able to provide timely and adequate pension and non-pension benefits and services to the veterans and their dependents.

Under Program 2, Veterans Affairs Management Program, PVAO's mission to unify the Filipino veterans' community has gained positive results based on the increasing number of veterans who became members of the Veterans Federation of the Philippines (VFP) which supports PVAO's thrust of unifying and strengthening the veterans organizations to become a reliable partner in nation building. This has been achieved through massive information campaign and recruitment efforts, continuous engagements of the veterans and their organizations and assisting the current leadership of the VFP in its reorganization and on-going reforms.


Finally, for Program 3, Veterans Memorial and Historical Preservation Program, the agency has ensured the perpetuation of the memory of the veterans heroic deeds by continuously maintaining and developing National Military Shrines, managing or participating in veterans related commemorative and celebratory events and publication of stories of bravery and self-sacrifice of Filipino veterans that will inspire the youth being the future defenders of the nation.

With respect to PVAO's actions in response to the COVID 19 Pandemic, the agency ensured that it can continue to provide essential frontline services to the veterans and their dependents and support the government's efforts in the implementation of RA 11469, otherwise known as

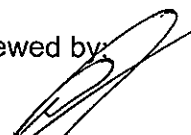
"Bayanihan To Heal As One Act". The agency's continuous operation from the start of the Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ) in Metro Manila that began on 16 March 2020 was made possible by the activation of the PVAO Action Center at the Main Office made up of select skeletal workforce, and the establishment of PVAO Online Action Center and Veterans Communication Center which provides a platform used by our veteran leaders and veterans organizations in obtaining and disseminating information concerning the Filipino Veterans Community.

The aforementioned accomplishments are testaments that PVAO is continuously fulfilling its constitutional mandate to provide genuine care for the veterans and their loved ones, and inculcate among the youth patriotism and nationalism, perpetually guided by the agency's credo – "**Serbisyo sa Beterano, Serbisyo sa Bayan**".

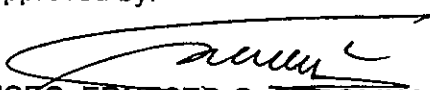
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